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is 6.1 their mean absolute magnitude is —1.5. This value is in good agreement with that recently obtained by Luplau-Janssen and Haarh from a consideration of the proper-motion data alone, but somewhat smaller than that obtained by Kapteyn[2], —2.6, from the proper motions of 120 N stars.

J. H. Moore.

Note on the Variable Star V 24 = SX Herculis (Henry Draper No. 144921, R. A. $16^h3^m.2$)

Recent spectrograms of this star, which is classified by Harvard as K2, show bright hydrogen lines $H\beta$ $H\gamma$ $H\delta$. A plate obtained by keeping the star stationary in the slit indicates the possibility that the hydrogen image presents a disk, as the image of the $H\gamma$ line is longer than the width of the well-exposed spectrum at that place. A long exposure made with low dispersion reveals no trace of the two chief nebular lines but shows $H\epsilon$ and $H\zeta$ bright and H and K as strong absorption lines. On one of the plates there is a sign of a bright line at 4363 A and possibly also at 4417. The visual magnitude of the star varies between $8^m.0$ and $8^m.8$ in a period of almost 100 days.

May 31, 1922.

W. J. Luyten.

Notes on the Crocker Eclipse Expedition to Australia

The first section of the eclipse expedition from the Lick Observatory, in charge of Dr. Robert J. Trumpler, reached the island of Tahiti on April 10th as planned. A letter from Dr. Trumpler states that a splendid observing site was found in the garden of an American resident, with valued advantages or work rooms and other conveniences immediately at hand.

The Einstein camera of the Toronto University is scheduled to reach Tahiti the middle of May, in order that Dr. Trumpler may mount it on the Einstein polar axis of the Crocker expedition and secure the photographs of the critical eclipse group of stars, for comparison with photographs secured at Wallal on the northwest coast of Australia during the total phase of the eclipse. Professor Chant has been unable to accompany his instrument, owing to engagements which keep him at Toronto until June.

The Navy Department of Australia has found that a naval vessel for the transport of the Lick Observatory, the Univer-

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[1] *Astr, Nach.*, **214**, 383, 1921.

[2] *Astroph. Jour.*, **32**, 9, 1910.

sity of Toronto and the Perth Observatory eclipse expeditions from Fremantle to Wallal and return cannot be spared from active service, and the Commonwealth Government has made substitute arrangements as follows:

The members of the expeditions and the astronomical instruments and supplies will be transported under government auspices by commercial steamer from Freemantle to Broome, a village of 3,000 inhabitants situated about 200 miles north of Wallal. Transfer will be made at Broome to a sailing schooner for the trip to the vicinity of Wallal. The landing on the beach will be made by experienced men. The return trip to Fremantle will be by the same methods.

The Commonwealth Government has prepared to offer very extensive assistance and hospitality to the expeditions during their stay at Wallal. The Commissioners of the Commonwealth Railways have arranged for the granting of favors to the members of the eclipse expeditions for the trip from Sydney to Fremantle and return.

The generosity and hospitality of the various departments of the Commonwealth Government are on a scale quite beyond expectations, and they set a new standard.

W. W. Campbell.

Personal Notes

Professor Robert H. Baker, Director of the Laws Observatory, University of Missouri, will reside at the Lick Observatory during the academic year 1922-23, as Martin Kellogg Fellow and Dr. Willem J. Luyten of Holland, at present University Fellow in the Lick Observatory, will be second Martin Kellogg Fellow during the coming academic year.

Dr. Knut Lundmark, Instructor in Astronomy in the University Observatory at Upsalà, Sweden, present holder of the Martin Kellogg Fellowship, is in residence at the Mount Wilson Observatory during the months of May and June.

Miss Margaret E. Powell, at present an assistant in the Sproul Observatory, Swarthmore College, has been appointed University Fellow in the Lick Observatory for the year 1922-23.

Miss A. M. Hobe, assistant in the Lick Observatory since 1905, has resigned, to take effect June 1, 1922, in order to accept appointment as Research Assistant in the Food Research Institute of Stanford University. Her departure is a loss in both the work of the Observatory and the life of the Observatory community.

Miss Mary Howe, at present a student of astronomy in Vassar College, has been appointed an Assistant in the Lick Observatory in succession to Miss Hobe.

Dr. Priscilla Fairfield, holder of a University Fellowship in the Lick Observatory during the years 1918-1921 and an Instructor in the Department of Mathematics, University of California, in the current year, will be an Assistant in the Lick Observatory during the summer vacation months of 1922.

Professor William H. Wright of the Lick Observatory staff was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences at the annual meeting of the Academy in April, 1922.

Professor Robert G. Aitken, delegate from the Lick Observatory, University of California, to the triennial meeting of the International Astronomical Union held in Rome on May 2-10, was also the representative of the University of California at the 700th Anniversary of the founding of the University of Padua, May 13-16. At the June meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society Dr. Aitken will present in person the Bruce Gold Medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific to the Astronomer Royal, Sir Frank Dyson.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

As this number of the Publications goes to press information concerning the triennial meeting of the Union at Rome on May 2-10 is received, to the effect that officers of the Union for the next triennial period have been elected as follows:

Campbell of the United States, President;
Fowler of Great Britain, Secretary;
Cerulli of Italy, Vice-President;
De Sitter of Holland, Vice-President;
Hirayama of Japan, Vice-President;
Hough of South Africa, Vice-President.

The next meeting of the Union will be held at Cambridge, England, in 1925. The Rome meeting of the Union was very successful and interesting, on both the scientific and personal sides. The published proceedings of the meeting are awaited with interest.